# critical digest

139 East 47 St. NY 17 NY EL 5-6894 T. M. Kraus



Oct 10,1960 Vol XII No 29 The Weekly NYC Theatre Newsletter Digest Service-11th year--Published 52 weeks a year \$25 per year

#### This Week in NYC

NY Shakespeare Festival winter and summer programs of free product ions were both secured and expanded . NY Mayor Robert Wagner announced that the city would make \$50,000 available for a six month tour of city schools starting in Jan with a production of Macbeth, and that he would back Festival producer Joe Papp's request of \$60,000 city gift toward \$140,000 summer budget for Central Park. Papp also announced that he is planning a 12 week summer season at the new \$250,000 amphitheatre, that the cast members will earn \$110 per week in salary and rehearsal fees, and that the new NYC Park Commissioner Newbold Morris will allow the group to distribute printed appeals for funds in the park.

#### Plays

Irma La Douce is first hit of the new season, reporting long line day after rave reviews... The Importance of Being Oscar one man show with Michael MacLiammoir to be presented this season by S. Hurok... Show Girl new revue by Charles Gaynor and Nat Hiken to be directed by George Burns... William Hammerstein to assist Garson Kanin in the direction of Do Re Mi... The Captains and the Kings new play by Leo Lieberman tested this summer at Westport, Conn to be directed on Broadway by Edward Chodorov.

# Players

Carmen Alvarez subbing for two weeks for vacationing Chita Rivera, Bye Bye Birdie...Thomas Chalmers to be featured in All the Way Home ... Neil Fitzgerald signed for Little Moon of Alban... PaulaStewart will portray Lucille Ball 's sister in Wildcat...John McMartin to move uptown from Little Mary Sunshine to The Hero... Under Yum Yum Tree Looking for a taxi-driver to fill small role... Jason Robards, Jr. Toys in the Attic, arrested and released on bail for drunken driving and leaving the scene of an accident... Prime Minister Nehru attended a preview of Becket.

#### 7 30 Curtain

Restaurant owners, producers and theatre owners are complaining about a drop in Wed business as a result of the 7 30 curtain, now in its fourth week. League of NY Theatres Board of Governors will met Oct 13 to consider future of plan. Meanwhile New Haven RR announced it will continue its extra Wed eve train for theatre - goers.

#### NYC Calendar

Laughs and Other Events-Barrymore 10/10 Martin Tahse presents one man show by Stanley Holloway, staged by Tony Charmoli,

The Wall- Rose- 10/11. Kermit Bloomgarden & Billy Rose present new play by Milliard Lampell based on John Hershey's novel, staged by Morton Da Costa with George C Scott, Yvonne Mitchell, Joseph Buloff.

Kittiwake Island-Martinque 10/12. Joseph Beruh presents new musical with book by Arnold Sundgaard, music by Alec Wilder, staged by Lawrence Carra with Joe Lauter, Kathleen Murray, G Wood.

Drums Under the Windows- Cherry Lane- 10/13. Torquay Company presents Paul Shyre's adaptation of Sean O'Casey's third autobiographical novel staged by Shyre with Martyn Green, George Bremlin, Dana Elcar.

The Shoemaker and the Peddler-East 74-10/14. Jullis Productions presents new musical drama based on Sacco-Vanzetti with book and lyrics by Armand Aulicino music by Frank Fields, directed by Lee Nemetz with Anita Darian, Jose Duval, James Bosotina, Elinor Miller

Sheperds on the Shelf-Blackfriars 10/14. Blackfriars Guild presents new farce-comedy by Rev John P O Donnell directed by Michael Kray with Don Casey, John Copeland, Edward Ansara.

# Special Events

Alex Cohen's "Nine O'Clock Theatre" celebrated its first year with a Sat midnight block party in Shubert Alley featuring Celebrity Auction for Actor's Fund,

# Drama Desk

"The Artist as Citizen" is topic of "Drama Desk" meeting Oct 10 at Sardi's with Brendan Behan, Bette Davis, Peggy Wood, Lorraine Hansberry, Mike Nichols and Elaine May.

#### Theatre Tv Notes

The Andersonville Trial to be presented on CBS in Jan, produced by Robert Herridge...Once Around the Block by William Saroyan to be presented this season on WNTA Play of the Week.

#### Off Broadway

A Delightful Season closed after 7 performances ... Provincetown Show revival of revue by Danton Walker due in Oct was canceled...Joe Lauter replaced David Atkinson in leading role of Kittiwake Island after latter left in disagreemen with director ... John Stratton replaced David Starkey, Leave It To Jane... Nancy Andrews returned to 3 Penny Opera .... Phil Thompson replaced John Anthony Zee, La Ronde ... Margaretta Warwick and John Wynne Evans added to The Mousetrap ... Viveca Lindfors to star in The Queen and the Rebels by Ugo Betti to be presented in Jan by Marilyn Shapiro-Mark Schoenberg-Michel Bouche.

#### Theatre Film Notes

The Flower Drum Song to be made in San Francisco, Henry Koster director... Irma La Douce film with Elizabeth Taylor and Jack Lemmon to be a straight love story, not a musical.

#### Theatre Book Notes

"The World of Musical Comedy" by Stanley Davis to be published in Oct by Ziff-Davis... "Happy With the Blues" biography of Harold Arlen by Edward Jabionski to be published in Feb by Doubleday... "The George and Ira Gershwin Song Book" published this week by Simon & Schuster (\$10 boxed.)

# Yiddish Theatre

In-Laws by Chune Gottesfled to open Hebrew Actors Union season Oct 15 at Isidor Straus Playhouse, 197 E Broadway, to be presented week-ends only

#### Church Drama

Lutheran Foundation for Religious Drama appointed Norman Dietz, Lancaster Penn, its first full-time executive director, He will direct three foundation productions which will tour NY and Philadelphia area churches,

# NY Children's Theatre

United Community Centers organizing Children's Repertory Theatre under direction of Ruth Garland to tour school and community project auditoriums.

(( Late News & Reviews -- Supplement ))

Becket- St James 10/5. 6 pro- and 1 con- Times-filed on dramatic spectacle by Jean Anouilh translated by Lucienne Hill presented by David Merrick, directed by Peter Glenville with Laurence Olivier, Anthony Quinn, Marie Powers, Affirmative majority includes four raves with milder reports from Herald Tribune and World Telegram & Sun , while sole negative vote listed due to disappointment with Quinn and a lack of surprise. All elements -large cast, stars, sets by Olivier Smith, lighting by Jean Rosenthal, costumes by Motley and music by Laurence Rosenthal shared praise in the raves. Chapman, News, loved the brilliant, exciting spectacular drama whose visual splendors matched by acting spendors of stars and the entire big company. Coleman, Mirror, prediced play would be an award winner, a stirring drama about fascinating fig ures brought alive, exciting, stimulating full blooded theatre. Watts, Post, joined rave parade though he felt second act lacked compelling interest of first, Otherwise he marked production physically beautiful, both stars superb and the small roles well played. McClain, Journal American, listed adaptor Hill first for reducing the dialogue to rather rough, contemporary terms. In milder tone Kerr, Herald Tribune, found much of interest in unfoccussed but fascinating play in which both the director and the stars are still in need of much work, and in which the secondary roles have not even been yet scratched. Those who see it in three months, Kerr bets, will see a better production, for there is so much stimulating, hopeful, gratifying material there. Aston, World Telegram & Sun, com plained about the length of the 22 scene play that demands concentration. Though he recommended it he urged readers to be prepared for a hamperful of caloric entertainment. Single mild dissenter Taubman, Times, admitted the eye was diverted, the mind stimulated, but the heart is not often stirred. He was very disappointed in the early scenes of Quinn his voice is limited and his acting style uninflected, though he does improve as the play progresses. If Anouilh's notion is right about Becket, there is thus no surprise in the play, one always knows that this Becket will be faithful to his duty.

Taste of Honey- Lyceum 10/4. 5 pro and 2 con-News, Mirror- filed on new English drama by Shelagh Delaney, presented by David Merrick, staged by Tony Richardson and George Devine with Joan Plowright, Angela Lansbury, Andrew Ray. First play by 19 year old British girl and viruoso performance by Plowright drew raves, other cast members were also praised. Negative voters vetoed it for being in bad taste and uninteresting. Taubman, Times, rave found it a remarkable achievement with the play adding up to a consistent view of human predicament and each character realized with unclouded objectivity. Times man lauded the fluid, imaginative direction, the entire cast with special selection of Plowright as the evening's treasure. Kerr, Herald Tribune, rave admitted play may not be to everyone's taste, but it is fresh in its accents, funny in its perceptions, somehow wistful beneath the caterwauling and very talented. Plowright was brilliant and all the characters touching, Kerr's only wonder is why the talented author did not also write the Divine Comedy and the Complete Works of Henry Fielding. Watts, Post, was moved by the compassionate candor mixed with frank and explicit realism, plus the beautiful perform ance of Plowright his only objection was that the early scenes were paced too rapidly and that Lansbury played her role with too much humor and sympathy. McClain, Journal American, noted play did not seem to prove much, but was written with such obvious sincerity and familiarity and so well played that it becomes a very touching experience in theatre. Aston, World Telegram & Sun, also found it a moving experience with Plowright something not to be forgotten. Negative voter Coleman, Mirror, reported first night applause for those who enjoyed sordid story, dialogue of constant insult and sheer sansationalism, but it was not for him. Chapman, News, admitted new author was a fine writer with a natural gift for theatre, but he thought this play while admirably acted did not touch him emotionally,

OFF

BROADWAY

WEEK



Deep Are the Roots- St Marks 10/3. 4 pro- Times, Herald Tribune, Journal American, World Telegram & Sun -and I con- Post- filed on revival of 1945 drama by Arnaud d'Usseau and James Gow presented by Lynn Michaels-Bernice Barkan, staged by Bert Conway with Lincoln Kilpatrick, Loretta Leversee, Janet Ward, James Karen, Pro reviewers praised cast and direction, though they differed if the racial melodrama was dated, while the sole con voter could see no purpose in reviving play now. Taubman, Times, noted that while the 1945 original stressed the impossible : romance the current production stresses the evolution and dissolution of the white girl's character in an effective production, well acted, a still timely play with something to say. Crist, Herald Tribune, enjoyed the highly professional revival, though she did feel the play was dated and most of its characters sterotypes. O'Connor, Journal American, believed play was even more timely today, a prejudiced play about prejudice, a drama of depth that makes you think, with a moving, effective performance. Aston, WTS, found acting convin cing and believable though play itself is out of date. Sole dissenter, Herridge, Post, felt play was neither convincing, distinguished or boring, the dialogue which stirred Broadway is now often unconvincing and overly melodramatic.

Don Juan in Hell- Jan Hus- 10/3, 3 pro . Herald Tribune, Post, Journal American- and 2 con- Times, World Telegram & Sun- filed on revival of Shaw's final act of 'Man and Superman" presented for limited two week engagement by William Gyimes, staged by Hugh Whitfield with James Forster, Gladys Holland, Bill Zuckert, Carl Low, Widely diverse views ranged from near raves to outright pannings, with aisle-sitter also differing on which players were best. Several noted that first night jitters caused many lines to be miffed. Kupferberg, Herald Tribune, okayed uneven production which never decided if it was reading or a play, but in which Shaw's wit glowed brightly. Though company has little polish, Herald Tribune music critic picked Forster as weakest. Watts, Post, recommended mildly players for at least suggesting play's provocative spells, and he picked Forster as the best, company generally speaks clearly and knows what they are up to. McClain, Journal American, raved over very competent and amusing company and the fine and witty talk, the entire production put together with good taste and intelligence. Harsh panning filed by Gelb, Times, who believes work in library should be labeled "For Top Flight professionals only. " Times man also panned director for moving cast around too much and the actors for not knowing their lines. Saffran, WTS, blamed cast for not projecting Shaw's meaning and at the same time their own comment on it, he saw much hemming and fumbling in search of lines.

((Late Reviews on Supplement ))





OUTER BROADWAY

THEATRE LETTER

College ----- Community ---- Summer

Oct 10,1960 Vol XII No 29 The Weekly Supplement of "Critical Digest" 139 E 47, NYC EL 5-6894-\$25 per year for full "CD"Service

#### College Theatre

Tulane University, New Orleans, dedication of its new arena theatre featured presentation of honorary degree to Roger L. Stevens.

State Univ of Iowa, Iowa City,
University Theatre program of six plays
and six studio theatre productions opens
Oct 27 with Separate Tables. Other productions include--A Dream Play by Strindberg, Love for Love, Mother Courage,
The Boy Friend and Troilius and Cresida.

Yale University School of Drama season of four major productions in the University Theatre and six workshop productions in the Experimental Theatre opens Oct 24 with Take Care Y'Self by Raymond Carver, resident student in playwriting.

#### Community Theatre

The Heretic a new play by Whitney Stine being presented week-ends in Oct by Originals Only, Miles Playhouse, Santa Monica, Calif.

Richard Solowicz named business manager of West Side Community Theatre, Wilwaukee, Season to include concert series, fine arts exhibition, showcase series for new playwrights, children's theatre classes.

#### Winter Repertory

Alley Theatre, Houston, Texas, roster of repertory players signed under new Ford Fund grant includes--Hal Burdick, Don Janeck, Wayne Maxwell, Robert Quarry, Tom Toner, Ann Williams, Eleanor Wilson, John Wylie.

Arena Stages, Washington, D. C. opens season Oct 18 with The Gang's All Here . Next production will be The Egg by Felecien Marceau Nov 15.

#### New Theatres

North Jersey Playhouse, Paramus, NJ to convert its temporary summer headquarters at Bergen Mall shopping center into a permanent 700 seat theatre. \$285,000 bond issue will finance new playhouse which will open Feb 15.

O Keefe Center, Toronto, debuted with Camelot premiere. Designed by Earle Morgan and Page & Steele the 3200 seat house can be cut to 1100 seats by drawing an acoustic curtain. No seat is more than 120 feet from the stage.

#### Summer Playhouses

Musical Island, Edgewood Park , . Shamokin, Penn to present musical productions seven months a year starting next spring, Irving Tilson producer.

Berkshire Playhouse, Stock - bridge, Mass to re-open for second season with Bob Grose and Joan White co-producers... Hinsdale, Ill, Summer Playhouse operated by Sidney Blackmer will not re-open next summer.. Spa Summer Theatre, Saratoga, NY, 14 year lease of John Huntington has expired and producer must bid for playhouse next year to return to NY State owned building.

#### Church Drama

Oberammergau, Germany, Passion Play ran for 98 performances, was attended by 518,000 including 60,000 from US.

#### Road Tours

Laurette opening in Philadelphia postponed due to illness of Judy Holliday, who is hospitalized in NY with a bronchial infection...Tammy Grimes missed three performances of The Unsinkable Molly Brown during Philadelphia tryout due to laryngitis, Iva Withers subbed. Harve Presnell also missed several shows, James Hurst subbedl...Alan Jay Lerner became ill during Camelot Toronto tryout due to bleeding ulcers.

#### Australia

Marriage Go Round with Basil Rathbone, Ruth Gower and Lloyd Cunningham opened tour... West Side Story with Bob Kole, Rita Tammon and Wendy Waring opens in Melbourne Oct 28.

#### Europe

The Best Man was presented on final day of Berlin Festival of Drama, Music & Ballet, and author Gore Vidal attended.

# Show Trains

Columbus, Ohio, Citizen first Show Train of season due Oct 9 for one week visit.

#### Calendar- Tryouts

Advise and Consent-Shubert-New Haven 10/10.

Camelot- O Keefe-Toronto 10/1

Face of a Hero-Wilbur, Boston,

49th Cousin- Locust, Philadelphia

Period of Adjustment-Playhouse, Wilmington 10/12

Unsinkable Molly Brown-Shubert
Philadelphia 9/26

#### Calendar- Current Tours

Best Man- Alcazar, San Fran

9/26 Destry Rides Again- Philharmonic

Fiorello! - Shubert, Chicago

Five Finger Exercise- Walnut Philadelphia 10/3

Flower Drum Song- State Fair, Dallas 10/7

Invitation to a Dance-Colonial, Boston 10/10

9/26 Majority of One- Erlanger, Chicago

Music Man- American, St Louis

My Fair Lady- Her Majesty's Montreal- 10/3

Once Upon a Mattress- Gerry San Fran, 10/3

Raisin in the Sun-Nixon, Pitts-burgh-

World of Suzie Wong-Shubert, Cincinatti 10/10







ANTHONY QUINN, Becket, future plans call for writing and painting, he told Ross, Herald Tribune. If his current play is a success he will be more careful in the kind of films he makes in the future, he feels he was in danger of falling into quick and easy ways of not really working terribly hard. For his next theatre role he would like to produce and star in Don Quixote in England written in 1734 by Henry Fielding, with Alfred Drake as Sancho Panza. After five or six years in the theatre, plus five or six more films, he would then go off somewhere and look at things through his painting and also his writing.

CLIVE REVILL, Irma La Douce, is happy about the praise he has won from the NY critics but hasn't gotten around to reading the reviews yet, he told Slocum, Mirror. Actors do not have to read them to find how they did for if they got good reviews people will them them. New Zealand actor appeared in NY eight years ago in a flop, and was rather deeply seared by New York's coldness and general dreariness; now he reports NY isn't a bit lonesome.

SANDY WILSON, author of Valmouth, thinks more kindly of NY critics after his experience with British reviewers, he told Cleaves, World Telegram & Sun. When NY critics do not like something they tell you why, and they list the good things. Some of the British critics will just be savage when they take a dislike to a play, call to have everyone shot, etc. Musical was written for Bertice Reading, who also played leading role in London.

MAUREEN STAPLETON, Toys in the Attic, doubts if theatre people get the secure feeling ever, she told Schiff, Post. There are so many actors that they are all aware they are a most expendable commodity in the theatre. She fears that maybe she might go three years after her current show and not work. This is the first time the actress has been in a long run and the longer it is the harder it is to keep it fresh.

STANLEY HOLLOWAY, Laughs and Other Events, thinks both NY and London theatre has too many seamy plays that bring life down to a deplorable level, he told Illson, Times. The public really wants grand theatre, elegant theatre; we know that deplorable things happen in life, but we don't have to see them onstage.

JOAN LITTLEWOOD, director of The Hostage, does not regard herself as a director, she told Little, Herald Tribune. The theatre today is too much the director on one side and the actor on the other both calling attention to themselves. Cut out all that fine direction and that fancy lighting and scenery. Have an author and a company of players with wit and love and compassion and you have a theatre. She has little liking for the theatre of the angry young men or of the plays of Ionesco or Beckett.

LATE NYC NEWS: The World of Carl Sandburg closed after 29 performances... David Merrick announces that his six Broadway productions will return to the 8 30-8 40 PM curtain time next Wed, prior to the Oct 13 meeting of League of NY Theatres to reconsider the early curtain. His show include -- Irma La Douce, Take Me Along, La Plume de Ma Tante, A Taste of Honey and Becket ... Catstick a new play by Jack Barefield will be presented in Jan by Elaine Perry with Patricia Jessel and Leif Erickson ... West Side Story moves to Alvin Oct 24... Hip, Hip, Hooray new play by Arthur Carter to be presented this season by Lynn Loesser ... The Explainers a new revue by cartoonist Jules Feiffer to be presented on Broadway in Jan by John Lotas, Ronny Graham to direct ... Hedda Gabler set for Nov 9 at Fourth St added Patricia Cutts ... Bill Tabbert to be featured in A Tree Grow in Brooklyn ... Plans to move HMS Pinafore uptown from Phoenix have been dropped ... La Ronde, which advertises "Last Weeks", switched to Sat 7 30 & 10 30 performances... A Sleep of Prisoners to be revived by Michael Ross and Manheim Fox for a Nov. Off Broadway arena production ... A Country Scandal will close Oct 30 after 203 performances.

Valmouth- York- 10/6. 7 cons-unanimous- filed on new musical with book, music and lyrics by Sandy Wilson, based on Ronald Firbank's novel, staged by Vida Hope, presented Gene Andrewski-Barbara Griner-Morton Segal with Bertice Reading, Constance Carpenter, Gail Jones, Elly Stone. Negative views ranged from sharp panning for all elements to merely disliking book and okaying diverse performers . Taubman, Times, rated it a tired musical with likeable performers, graceful and insinuating lyrics, pleasant and lively tunes, book tired and precious. Kerr, Herald Tribune, panned it as a mess set to music in which neither author nor cast members can be forgiven, sole exception was Stone who he thought charming and deserves immediate release from her Off Broadway cell. Davis, News, tabbed it a bundle of musical trash. Coleman, Mirror, added tasteless and dull to list. with Reading faring best and others capable but trapped in weird proceedings. Watts, Post, okayed helpful cast and attractive production, but thought Firbank's preciousness overwelmed the evening. McClain, Journal American, liked the exceptional cast and Tony Walton's sets and costumes, but agreed that the fantasy failed to come to life. Aston, World Telegram & Sun, admitted the end result with some fine specialties along the way left him feeling just awful. He also rated Stone as among the best items in show.





GREEN

DEPARTMENT



PROS & CONS BY TMK

- PARK BARD VIEWS...Commissioner of Culture title suggested for NY Park Commissioner Newbold Morris by Herald Tribune editorial for carrying of NY Shakespeare Festival Joe Papp's plans with a larger vision--providing joint use of new Central Park amphitheatre by both the Shakespeare and City Center projects...But NY News editorial warned Mayor Wagner and Morris that they may get into grave trouble some day on account of Papp. Paper reminds that the producer was fired by CBS for refusing to tell the House Un-American Activities Committee whether he had ever been a Communist. An arbitrator later forced CBS to take him back, but editorial feels the \$64,000 question as to Papp's status is still shrouded in mystery.
- COLUMN TIPS...Gertrude Berg may star in play about Mrs
  Kruschev hears Kilgallen, Journal American... Next
  change in a NY theatre name will be to the Rodgers &
  Hammerstein Theatre, reports Winchell, Mirror ...
  Laurence Olivier commissioned and paid Christopher
  Fry to write a play on Becket, but used Anouilh's anotes
  Lyons, Post.
- REVIEWER'S ROLE...McClain, Journal American, goes to the theatre sensitive and steady, watching all the nice people on the stage and hoping they will make him laugh or cry or think, he details. All he wants to be is entertained. No amount of fine words will produce this, no fancy symbolism. He demands to be reached and somehow moved, and doesn't care whether it's the writing or acting or both.
- 7 30 PM OPENINGS...Two columnists panned practice of 7 30 first nights. David Merrick will soon restore the 8 30 PM openings, reports Lyons, Post...Sobol, Journal American, tabbed the early openings a pain in the neck and serve no purpose.
- CRITICAL THOUGHTS...3 Penny Opera co-producer Carmen Capalbo is the gentleman around town who combs his hair straight forward, all the way down his skull, describes Aston, World Telegram & Sun, who wonders what happens when he heads into a stiff wind... Unless actors are extremely careful when their roles call for wearing beards, they are inevitably going to look like Castro, warns Watts, Post.
- DRAMA MAIL BOX...Sobol, Journal American, answering a reader on the obscenity in The Hostage and Irma La

  Douce listed his objection to the former some indecencies in situation and dialogue and in the latter the lineup in front of the one woman house of prositution.
- AUDIENCE POLLS...Off Broadway fans are male, college graduates, 35-49, Manhattan residents earning more than \$6500 details survey of A Country Scandal patrons made by Communications and Media Research Services, Peekskill, NY..., "Stage" suggests first week poll of paying customers to a production with survey results mounted outside next to critics' quotes.
- THE ATRE BOOK COMMENTS..."A Wayward Guest" autobiography of Theresa Helburn (Little Brown \$5) will prove absorbing and amusing to veteran theatregoers who lived in a glow through the early Theatre Guild years, recommends Atkinson, Times. A book of chatty reminiscences with anecdotes about and comments onsome of the most celebrated people in the theatre.
- BEHAN ADVICE...If Brendan Behan does not turn inward and listen to his conscience he will spoil the makings of a very interesting playwright, lists Chapman, News.

A Taste of Honey is a beautiful modern English folk play presenting full bodied Lancashire characters in an unusually knit play of humorous, tender and heart moving moments. The acting by the entire cast, and specially by Angela Lansbury, is perfect, the ingenious direction blending both an on-stage jazz quartet and the audience into the play itself is unique and always fascinating.

Deep Are the Roots is an excellent revival of the 1945 stirring racial melodrama that should be, but sadly isn't, dated. Though time and excess films and telecasts have made both the situation and characters common, the superb white and negro cast members breath exciting life into this specific conflict. The director does not miss a melodramatic trick to heighten the interest and the uniformly fine cast play well together. Set and lights in the three quarter arena playhouse add to the overall effect of an outstanding Off Broadway revival.

7 30 PM Wed curtain seems doomed. The idea of having a special night and time for commuters is a good one, but the method of choosing the present set-up was wrong. Instead of asking theatre patrons by means of Playbill polls, the survey should have been conducted in the railroad terminals. The suburbanites not going to theatre should have been asked why they aren't, what night they would if they did, and what time they would want the curtain to start on those nights. If commuters do go to the theatre they must eat dinner, so if the proper night and time is picked the restaurant owners will have no complaints

NY may be the self-appointed theatre capitol of the world, but no organization made it their business to see that the leaders of the world, gathered in NY for the UN Assembly, were invited to any theatre, on or Off Broadway. Prime Minister Nehru attended a preview of Becket and to the moment that is the extent of the current cultural exchange

Add to woes of the suffering Off Broadway producer the realization that on the evenings that two Off Broadway debuts are scheduled, the first string critics seem to pick the playhouses nearest home.

Sick list from current tryouts reminds that the short rehearsal period in NY, followed by near 24 hour work days during out -of-town tryouts is only for the healthy author, actor and staff member. The pressure and tension of million dollar productions make the work a necessity. A longer rehearsal period in NY on multi-million dollar musicals, even if the cast is on full-salary, might be the answer to this problem.

Broadway is in danger of going Hollywood at any second. A leading player is reported as answering a question on a current divorce case he is involved in with "It might help sell tickets to my show." Such conduct and statements should be condemned by Actors' Equity, and ignored by ticket buyers.

American actresses may well ask whatever happened to them with a quartet of English belies stealing the opening night reviews! Oct 10, 1960 THEATRE FACT CHART -- CRITICAL DIGEST -- 139 E 47, NYC EL 5-6894 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Theatre Fact Chart presents up-to-minute data on current business and critical reaction on current Broadway and Off Broadway shows. Top week-end prices and opening dates are listed.

SUBSCRIBERS ONLY may write or phone for any other specific critical data and/or for specific details of late NYC reviews and Out of Town tryout reviews.

"C"- Critical- figures refer to percentage of PRO votes filed by 7 NYC daily newspaper reviewers. PRO means show was recommended for entertaining and/or stimulating evening, not if critic predicted if show would be a commercial hit (earn back investment.)

"B"- Business- figures refer to percentage of gross ticket sales last week and indicates current availability of tickets. Figures that follow, all in thousands of dollars, are gross capacity (CAP) and corrected Variety grosses of past week and preceding weeks. Thus 10.% B- Cap \$80-\$80 \$76 \$75-means show was a sellout last week at \$80,000, the previous week's gross was \$76,000, etc

#### 

BECKET St James \$7, 50 10/5/60	246 W 44 LA 4-4664	See Page 2 for Digests
St James \$1.50 10/5/00	LA 4-4004	
BEST MAN	235 W 45	100% C- 7 pro- 3 raves
Morosco \$7.50 3/31/60	CI 6-6230	90% B- Cap \$40\$32 \$36 \$39 \$35 \$36
BYE BYE BIRDIE	302 W 45	90% C- 1 Con- Times-rest all raves
Beck \$8.60 4/14/60	CI 6-6363	100% B - Cap \$58\$56 \$58 \$57 \$58 \$58
FIORELLO!	235 W 44	100% C- 5 raves-Post, WTS milder book
Broadhurst \$9.40 11/23/59	CI 6-6699	100% B- Cap \$58\$57 \$58 \$58 \$56 \$58
GYPSY	249 W 45	100% C- 7 pro- J Am milder on book
Imperial \$9.40 5/21/59	CO 5-2412	70% B - Cap \$64\$43 \$51 \$ \$51 \$44 \$45
HOSTAGE	138 W 48	60% C- 4 Pro- Trib, Post, Mir, WTS
Cort \$7.50 9/20/60	CI 5-4289	50% B - Cap \$40\$20 \$24
IRMA LA DOUCE	236 W 45	90% C- 1 Con- H Trib
Plymouth \$8,60 9/28/60	CI 6-9156	100% B- Cap \$48\$48
		Total Conference of the Confer
LA PLUME	242 W 45	100% C- 6 raves-Times milder
Royale \$8.05 11/11/58	CI 5-5760	70% B - Cap \$45\$30 \$35 \$36 \$32 \$34
MIRACLE WORKER	137W 48	100% C- 5 raves-Times, WTS milder
Playhouse \$7.50 10/19/59	CI 5-6060	80% B - Cap\$36\$28 \$32 \$35 \$33 \$36
MUSIC MAN	245 W 44	100% C- 6 raves- H Trib milder
Majestic \$8.05 12/19/57	CI 6-0730	50% B- Cap \$70\$34 \$43 \$40 \$36 \$43
MY FAIR LADY	235 W 51	100% C- 7 raves Play-News OK p Charls
Hellinger \$8,05 3/15/56	PL 7-7064	60% B - Cap \$70\$48 \$52 \$54 \$50 \$55
SOUND OF MUSIC	205 W 44	90% C-1 Con- H Trib- 3 raves
Lunt \$9.90 11/16/59	JU 6-5555	100% B- Cap \$75\$76 \$76 \$76 \$76 \$76
TAKE ME ALONG	225 W 44	90% C- 1 Con- Mir-2 raves-News, WTS
Shubert \$9.40 10/22/59	CI 6-5910	70% B- Cap \$64\$45 \$53 \$51 \$41 \$46
TASTE OF HONEY	149 W 45	80% C- 2 Con- News, Mir
Lyceum \$6.90 10/4/60	JU 6-9854	or in the state of
TENTH MAN	222 W 45	100% C- 7 pro-2 raves-Times, News
Booth \$7.50 11/5/59	CI 6-5969	55% B - Cap \$32\$17 \$19 \$26 \$23 \$26
THURBER CARNIVAL	245 W 52	100% C- 6 raves- Mir milder
ANTA \$7.50 2/26/60	CI 6-6270	45% B - Cap\$49\$20 \$24 \$29 \$26
TOYS IN THE ATTIC	141 W 44	100% C 5 T 4 114
Hudson \$7, 50 2/25/60	JU 6-2237	100% C- 5 raves-Times, J Am milder 45% B- Cap \$40\$17 \$21 \$27 \$23 \$21
	20 0 2021	
WEST SIDE STORY	1674 Bway	100% C-7 pro on return of musical
W Garden \$8.05 4/27/60	CI 5-4876	50% B- Cap \$64\$30 \$35 \$42 \$44 \$46
WORLD CARL SANDBURG	124 W 43	60% C- 4 pro- Times, Trib, Post, J Am
Miller \$7,50 9/14/60	BR 9-3970	25% B - Cap \$33\$9 \$14 \$15

# TV THEATRE PROGRAMS

Oct 22- CBS- The Disenchanted on Show of Month

Oct 24- NBC - Shangri-La on Hall of Fame

Nov 20 - NBC - Macbeth on Hall of Fame with Judith Anderson Dec 8 - NBC - Peter Pan with Mary Martin

CBS- "The Gershwin Years"

Feb 7- NBC- Time Rememberd on Hall of Fame

# "CD" PROS & CONS

Best Man, Bye Bye Birdie, Gypsy, Hostage, La Plume, Miracle Worker PROS: Music Man, MY Fair Lady, Take Me Along, Taste of Honey, Thurber Carn Toys in Attic. West Side Story

> Balcony, Country Scandal, Deep Are Moots, Greenwivh Village, HMS Pinafore The Idiot, Krapps Last Tape, Leave It to Jane, Little Mary Sunshine, 3 Penny

CONS: Sound of Music, Tenth Man, World of Carl Sandburg

Here Come Clowns, La Ronde, Sign of Jonah

#### OFF BROADWAY

OFF	BROADWA	A Y
BALCONY	159 Bleecker	3 Pro- Times, Post, WTS
Circle \$4,50 3/3/60	GR 3-4950	3 Con- H Trib, News, J Am
COUNTRY SCANDAL	131 W 13	6 Pro- No Mirror
G Mews \$3.90 5/5/60	CH 3-6800	Sat to Thur- No Fris
DANCE OF DEATH	4 St Marks	2 Pro- Times, WTS
Key \$3.60 9/13/60	GR 5-9748	3 Con- H Trib, Post, J Am
DEEP ARE ROOTS	133-2nd Av	4 Pro- Times, Trib, J Am, WTS
St Marks \$3,60 10/3/60	OR 4-3530	I Con- Post
GREENWICH VILLAGE USA	1 Sher Sq	4 Pro- Trib, Post, J Am, WTS
1 Sher Sq \$4.50 9/28/60	UN 9-1334	l Con- Times
FANTASTICKS	181 Sullivan	5 Pro-
Sullivan \$4,60 5/3/60	OR 4-3838	1 Con- H Trib, No Mirror
HERE COME CLOWNS	100-7th Av S	4 Pro- Times, News, Post, J Am
Actors Play \$4.60 9/19/60	OR 5-1036	3 Con- H Trib, Mir, WTS
HMS PINSFORE	189-2nd Av	7 Pro- To Oct 23
Phoenix \$4.60 9/7/60	OR 4-7160	
THE IDIOT	162-2nd Av	5 Pro- No Mirror
Gate \$3.90 9/25/60	OR 4-8796	1 Con- News- to Oct 23
KRAPPS LAST TAPE	162-2nd Av	6 Pro- No Mirror
Cricket \$4.50 1/14/60	OR 4-3960	
LA RONDE	110 E 59	l Pro- WTS ( rave )
T Marquee \$3.90 5/9/60	PL 3-2575	5 Con- All mild- No Mirror
LEAVE IT TO JANE	99-7th Av S	5 Pro-
Sher Sq \$5 5/25/69	CH 2-9244	2 Con- H Trib, News
LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE	126-2nd Av	6 Pro- 4 raves- No Miror
Orpheum \$4.95 11/18/59	OR 4-8140	
SIGN OF JONAH	115 MacDoug	4 Pro- Times, H Trib, Post, WTS
Players \$3.90 8/8/60	AL 4-5076	2 Con- News, J AM
3 PENNY OPERA	121 Chris	3 Pro- Times, H Trib, Post
De Lys \$4.85 9/20/54	WA 4-8782	
VALMOUTH	64 & 1st	See Supplement for Digests
York \$6.90 10/6/60	TR 9-4130	
LIVING REPERTORY	530-6th A	Connection-5 con-1 pro-Post 7/5/5
Living \$3.45	CH 2-4569	Theatre Chance 1 Pro-Post 6/22/6

#### NYC THEATRE CALENDAR

Laughs & Other Events-Barrym 10/10 The Wall- Rose- 10/11 Kittiwake Island- Martinque 10/12 Drums Under Window-C Lane 10/13 Shoemaker & Peddler-East 74 10/14 Sheperds on the Shelf-Blackfriar 10/14 Tenderloin - 46thSt- 10/17 Darwin's Theories- Mad Av 10/18 Face of a Hero- O Neill - 10/22 49th Cousin- Ambassador 10/25 Invitation to a March- M Box 10/26 Laurette- Beck- 10/27 Behind the Wall- Jan Hus- 10/31

She Stoops to Conquer - Phoenix 11/1 Rape of the Belt- ANTA 11/2 Kukla Burr & Ollie-Astor Hotel 11/2 Unsinkable M Brown- W Garden 11/3 The Mousetrap- Maidman 11/5 Period of Adjustment- Hayes- 11/10 Open Up Your Heart- 11/10 Under Yum Yum Tree-Miller 11/16 Advise & Consent - Cort - 11/17 Camelot - Majestic 11/19 Taffy- 11/23 After I m Gone- Atkinson 11/28 Tree Grows Brooklyn-Bar Plaza 11/28 Ideal- (Off)-11/28
All the Way Home- Belasco-11/30
Love & Libel-11/30 Hedda Gabler- 4th St - 11/? Donogoo- G Mews- 11/?

Little Moon Alban-Longacre 12/1 Critics Choice- Barrymore 12/14 Wildcat- Alvin- 12/15 Do Re Mi- St James -12/26 The Tiger Rag-T Marquee 12/?

The Hero- ANTA 1/5 Show Girl- 1/14 Love & Death- 1/15

I'm With You- 2/1 Faust- C Center 2/7 13 Daughters- 2/9 Comedie Francaise-C Center 2/2! The Caretaker- Miller 2/1 Red Roses for Me- G Mews 2/?



\$25 check

Bill Co

This weekly NYC THEATRE NEWSLETTER DIGEST SERVICEnow in its lith year to theatre teachers, students, professionals-college drama departments, community theatres, college and public libraries--presents each week of the year a concise 15 minute summary of all theatre news, commen.s, reviews, etc--published in the past week's 2100 pages of 7 NY C daily newspapers. Plus weekly "Outer Broadway Theatre Letter" supplement giving exclusive coverage of outstanding College, Community, Summer theatre productions coast to coast. Also free critical research on specific data and/or specific details of late NYC theatre reviews and Out of Town tryout reviews via mail, phone. \$25 per year for full service. Back volumes available from Oct 1956-\$25 each.. "CD" is the perfect theatre gift.

